

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUBJECT Gheorghe Stere, President  
of Court of Appeals  
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1. Gheorghe Stere, who was born in Chisinau, Bessarabia, in 1892, was educated at the University of Iasi and attended law school. After serving as an officer in the Rumanian Army during the first World War, Stere practiced law in Chisinau for two years and was then appointed a magistrate. He was widely known at this time for his leftist sympathies; he joined the Rumanian Communist Party during the early 1920's.
2. By June 1940 Stere had reached the grade of Counsellor of the Chisinau Court of Appeals. He remained in Bessarabia when that province was forcibly taken by the Russians. After spending some time in Soviet prisons he was sent to Tadzhik. At a later date he toured prison camps in the USSR with Ana Pauker, propagandizing Rumanian prisoners of war. Stere returned to Rumania in the autumn of 1946 and was appointed president of a section of the High Court of Rumania, which position he held until December 1947. After the abdication of King Mihai he was appointed to the Presidium, remaining in this post until the elections of 1948. He was then appointed Prosecutor General of the Republic. After his removal from this position Stere was named to the presidency of the Court of Appeal. The reason for his removal from the post of 'Prosecutor' General is not known. He apparently lost prestige when he left this position, but thereafter regained his influence.
3. Stere is a Soviet-trained Communist. He is reportedly on good terms with Ana Pauker and Soviet Ambassador Sergei Kavtaradze and on poor terms with the Gheorghiu-Dej wing of the Rumanian Workers Party. [REDACTED] the reasons for Stere's present difficulties with the Regime.

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